Prior to calculation of fees and prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 5-8 and 12-16 in the attached translation of the international application without prejudice.

REMARKS

The claims are canceled to conform with U.S. Patent and Trademark.

Office multiple dependent claim practice as well as to reduce the filing fees due.

Claims 1-4 and 9-11 pending.

No new matter is added.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4550.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyman H. Smith Reg. No. 44,342

Agent for Applicant

The Morrison Building 145 N. Fifth Ave. Mt. Vernon NY 10550 Phone (914)-667-6755 Date: December 28, 2001